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December 3, 2004

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Room TW-B204  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service  
CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Madam Secretary:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, we hereby provide you with notice of an oral *ex parte* presentation in connection with the above-captioned proceeding.

On Wednesday, December 2, 2004, undersigned counsel met with Christopher Libertelli and Aaron Goldberger Commissioner Powell's office to discuss the pending petition by RCC Minnesota, Inc. ("RCC") for FCC concurrence with the Maine PUC's proposal to redefine rural ILEC service areas pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.207(c).

We discussed the difficulties faced by public safety and law enforcement personnel who are hampered by poor cellular coverage in Maine's most rural areas. Undersigned counsel urged prompt action by the Commission to concur with the proposed redefinition and made statements consistent with RCC's comments to the Commission in the above-captioned proceeding. Finally, undersigned counsel urged adoption of a forward-looking cost methodology for determining high-cost support for all rural ILECs so as to force all carriers to efficiently deliver services to rural America.

Marlene H. Dortch  
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No written materials were provided at the meeting. If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact undersigned counsel directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D. LaFuria", written in a cursive style.

David A. LaFuria

cc: Christopher Libertelli, Esq.  
Aaron Goldberger, Esq.